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wagon-maker of South Bend, Indiana. Mr. Estee was prominent in the Republican National Convention which nominated Harrison and Morton. Mr. Trescott was the diplomatic agent of the State Department when Mr. Blaine was Secretary of State in President Garfield's Cabinet. Mr. Coolidge is a capitalist, a manufacturer, and a successful business man of Boston. He has literary tastes and made a good address as well as performed a most useful and generous deed when he gave Manchester, Mass., his summer home, a hall for a town library in 1887. His remarks on that occasion are worthy of a wider publication than in the beautiful pamphlet which commemorates that occasion. Mr. Coolidge will fitly represent in this unprecedented and unique council of the nations, the peaceful industry and thrift of his New England home, and will bring to its discussions a mature judgment and a taste cultivated by classical study. He is a graduate of Harvard College, A. D. 1850.

### GOLDWIN SMITH ON WAR.

The Congregational Club of New York and vicinity held a meeting March 18th, in which Prof. Goldwin Smith, of Toronto, Canada, made some suggestive remarks on the subject of War and Peace. The *New York Times* of the 19th, however, reports Prof. Smith as maintaining two propositions, which though they may voice the popular sentiment, cannot, as it seems to us, be proved.

1. Arbitration cannot be relied on as a substitute for war when a nation's "honor" has been insulted.

2. War has so greatly improved as to have become a school of benevolence and humanity.

As to the first proposition, it was replied at the time that in the case of expected duels growing out of a recent debate in the French Legislature four had been "arranged," i. e., the offices of mutual friends had interposed to secure apologies and prevent bloodshed. That is not technically arbitration, but it bears a close resemblance to it. What "honor" consists in, either in the case of a man or a nation, is not perhaps fully settled. It cannot be accurately defined.

Prof. Smith explains his remark, according to the *Times* report in these words: "Where the controversy is one in which the people feel that their manhood has been insulted by an affront offered to their country." But what "insults manhood"? It is easier to define the individual than the national offence. We wish the Professor, had particularized. Is firing at a flag, a thing for which an apology can not be accepted or undiplomatic words uttered in anger? Is it the unjust imprisonment or injury of a citizen? There is certainly a reasonable reparation that can be made in these and similar cases. But if you define "honor" as an imaginary self-love so large and tender and sensitive as to be easily insulted, and which will be satisfied with nothing short of blood, you have the chivalric, i. e., the semi-barbaric definition of honor, and by its very terms there must be bloodshed. But we had supposed that common sense, not to say Christianity, which has abolished chivalry and its monstrous offspring, duelling, had put such a meaning into the word "honor" as would allow a person or a nation to possess that virtue and still accept apology and reparation, and even if these were not proffered, would resent the meanness of an insult by a show of patience and a disposition to forgive. If Christianity means anything it means as much as that.

But what shall we say to the second plea for war, viz. "It is a school of humanity and benevolence!" Prof. Smith spoke of the absence of savage murders and rapine in our civil war, the care of the wounded by their enemies, even, and the various ameliorations which science and even mercy have suggested to its anciently horrid character. Of course we admit the facts which he recited. But we deny the causes which he alleged. What we call the progress of the age which owes so much to science, and certainly something to religion, is sufficient to account for the more humane treatment of prisoners and the wounded after a battle. He told us that at the siege of Saragossa murder and rapine rioted. The Bulgarian atrocities, of which the Turks were guilty very recently, we have not forgotten. The latter we regard as but half civilized. It is civilization and not war that educates men to be merciful. In the sense which Prof. Smith called war a school of humanity, a small-pox hospital, a yellow fever plague, or an earthquake is a school of humanity. War did not produce Florence Nightingale or any Red Cross heroine. It furnished the occasion for their benevolence to exercise itself,—a benevolence which ought never to have been taxed to alleviate the sufferings voluntarily and purposely produced by the ambitions, lusts and resentments of men. Inevitable calamities, the causes of which are not the human will, are sufficient to employ all the kindness and school all the benevolent of the world.

War a school! Yes, but on the whole a school of vice, with here and there a solitary virtue like courage, heroism, generosity and kindness developed. But these virtues it does not itself directly teach. Its spirit is malevolent and revengeful. Its methods are those of wild beasts and savages. It has no law higher or broader than might. Its essence is hate; its outcome death. But Prof. Smith proceeded as usual to recount the names of those who, notwithstanding they were soldiers, seemed to be Christians: Gardner, Havelock, Vicars, and others. These characters were what they were not because of war. That was not the root and spring of their goodness. They were good in spite of their business, and developed noble traits as phenomenal as flowers in a sandy desert. We deny then that war is necessary to the development of benevolence or true heroism. We believe these virtues have existed in times of peace and will exist when the nations learn war no more. No Christian conceives war necessary to Heaven. But all expect to find there every grand trait of character.

Sin is the atmosphere in which goodness becomes tough and enduring. But God forbid that any should "do evil that good may come." The condemnation of such is just.

### THE INTERNATIONAL MARINE CONFERENCE.

The names and post-office addresses of the American delegates to the International Marine Conference are as follows: Rear Admiral S. R. Franklin, Washington, D. C.; Captain W. P. Sampson, U. S. Navy, Commandant of the Naval Academy, Annapolis, Maryland; Captain James W. Norcross, East Boston, Mass.; Captain John W. Shackford, Philadelphia, Pa.; William W. Goodrich, Esq., New York City; Clement A. Griscom, Esq., Philadelphia, Pa., and Hon. Sumner I. Kimball, Supt. of Life Saving Department of United States Government, Washington, D. C.